

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claim will replace all prior versions and listings of claim in the present application.

Listing of Claims

1. (cancel)

2. (new) An information device system comprising:

at least two information devices connected via a bus or a network, said information devices having ID numbers,

wherein each information device identifies the other information device using the ID number of the other information device,

wherein of said information devices, an information device which is controlled by the other information device, comprises:

storage means for storing device name data indicating a name of said information device to provide information used for distinguishing an identification of said information device from the other information device, and

another storage means for storing function data including instruction data used for enabling said information device to be controlled by the other information device,

wherein said information device sends to the other information device said function data including information data in response to a request from the other information device and receives from the other information device information which is generated by the other information device based on said function data received so that said information device is controlled by the other information device,

wherein at least one of said information devices further comprises:

first storage means for storing device name data received from the other information device, and

second storage means for storing function data sent from said the other information device,

wherein said one information device requests one or more other information devices in said system to send device name data and stores the received device name data in said first storage means, requests a subject information device to be controlled among the other information devices in said system to send function data and stores said function data sent from said subject information device in said second storage means, generates control information based on said function data stored in said second storage means for controlling said subject information device and sends the generated control information to control said subject information device.

3. (new) An information device which configures an information device system which includes a plurality of said information device including said information device and at least another information device connected to said information device via a bus or a network, said information device having ID number, wherein said information device identifies the other information device using the ID number of the other information device, said information device comprising:

first storage means for storing device name data received from another information device; and

second storage means for storing function data received from a subject information device to be controlled by said information device,

wherein said information device requests said at least another information device to send device name data and stores the received device name data in said first storage means, requests a certain information device to be controlled among said at least said another information devices to send function data, receives said function data from said certain information device data and stores the received function data in said second storage means, generates control information based on said function data stored in said second storage means for controlling said certain information and sends the generated control information to said certain information device to control said certain information device.

4. (new) An information device which configures an information device system which includes a plurality of said information device including said information device and at least another information device connected to said information device via a bus or a network, said information device having ID number, wherein said information device identifies the other information device using the ID number of the other information device, said information device comprising:

storage means for storing device name data including a name of said information device to provide information used for distinguishing an identification of said information device from the other information device;

another storage means for storing function data including instruction data for enabling said information device to be controlled by the other information device;

wherein when said information device is to be controlled by said another information device, said information device sends to said another information device said function data including instruction data in response to a request from said another information device and receives from said another information device information which is generated by said another information device based on said function data received so that said information device is controlled by said another information device.

5. (new) A method for controlling an information device system having at least two information devices connected via a bus or a network, each information device having device name data indicating a name of said information device to provide information used for distinguishing an identification of said information device from the other information device and function data including instruction data used for enabling said information device to be controlled by the other information device, said information devices having ID numbers, wherein each of said information device identifies the other information device using the ID number of the other information device, said method comprising the steps of:

requesting a second information device to send device name data including a name of said second information device which said second information device has to a first information device;

storing said device name data sent from said second information device to said first information device;

requesting said second information device to send function data including instruction data which said second information device has for enabling said second information device to be controlled;

receiving said function data sent from said second information device and storing the received function data in storage means of said first information device;

generating control information based on said function data received by said first information device for controlling said second information device and sending the generated control information to said second information device to control said second information device, so that said first information device controls said second information device.